## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /138 W

-----250135Z 024774 /75

R 241625Z MAY 77 FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3879 INFO ALL EC CAPITALS AMEMBASSY BRASILIA AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO AMEMBASSY SEOUL AMEMBASSY TOKYO AMCONGEN MARTINIQUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, EFIS, PLOS

SUBJECT: US FISHERY OFF FRENCH GUIANA

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 5216, (B) EC BRUSSELS 5072,

1. AN OFFICIAL OF THE EC COMMISSION DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (AARTS) CALLED IN A MISSION OFFICER ON MAY 24 TO DELIVER A NOTE OFFICIALLY TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE EC REGULATION GOVERNING FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA (REF B). THE NOTE (WHICH IS INTERESTINGLY DATED MAY 25) CONTAINS NO ADDITIONAL EXPLANATIONS REGARDING PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLWED IN REQUESTING FISHING LICENSES AND IS MERELY A TRANSMITTAL DOCUMENT.

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2. IN PRESENTING THE NOTE, THE COMMISSION OFFICIAL APOLIGIZED ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE FACT THAT THE U.S. WAS NOT INFORMED EARLIER OF THE SUGGESTED AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATION TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF VESSELS FISHING OFF FRENCH GUIANA. HE NOTED THAT THE MISSION SHOULD HAVE BEEN KEPT FULLY BRIEFED, ALBEIT UNOFFICIALLY, OF THE PROPOSED RESTRICTIONS. THE MISSION

OFFICER USED THE OCCASION TO EXPRESS OCE AGAIN USG OBJECTION TO THE EC ACTION FIXING LIMITS AND TO REPEAT OUR VIEW THAT THE RESTRICTION ON THE NUMBER OF FISHING VESSELS IS NOT NECESSARY, WILL REDUCE US FISHING AND CAUSE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP TO THE OVERALL INDUSTRY AND PROBABLY TO SHORE-BASED FACILITIES IN THE AREA, AND IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH OUR FISHING AGREEMENT WITH THE EC.

3. AN EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED THE MISSION THAT AT A MEETING ON MAY 23 OF FISHERY EXPERTS FROM THE MEMBER STATES, GALLAGHER DID CONVEY US OBJECTIONS TO THE EC LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF VESSELS. ALTHOUGH HE SAID SOME OFFICIALS WERE NOT VERY SYMPATHETIC TO THE US POSITION. THIS OFFICIAL RAISED SUSPICION IN THE MINDS OF SOME OFFICIALS AS TO THE VALIDITY OF FRENCH STATISTICS BY ASKING WHETHER THE FRENCH AVERAGE SHRIMP BOAT CATCH OF 60 TONS IS GROSS "CAUGHT WEIGHT"OR HEAD-OFF, READY-PEELED, PROCESSED WEIGHT DELIVERED TO THE FACTORY. HE THOUGHT MEMBER STATES MIGHT BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER THE BOAT LIMITATION IN VIEW OF THE LARGE DISCREPANCY BETWEEN US AND FRENCH FIGURES ON AVERAGE BOAT TAKE BUT THAT US DATA TO SUPPORT ITS POSITION WOULD HAVE TO MAKE VERY CLEAR WHETHER SEMI-PROCESSED OR RAW CATCH IS INVOLVED. PLEASE CLARIFY. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: FISHERIES, LICENSES, FISHING AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU05275
Document Source: 10.00

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: D770185-1034

Format: TEL From: EC BRUSSELS Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770525/aaaaavfk.tel

Line Count: 88 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9cc8568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION OES

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 EC BRUSSELS 5216, 77 EC BRUSSELS 5072

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 29-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2395690 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: US FISHERY OFF FRENCH GUIANA

TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, US, FG, EEC

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/9cc8568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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